



The Bullroarer - Monday 10th November 2008

Posted by [Phil Hart](#) on November 9, 2008 - 8:35pm in [The Oil Drum: Australia/New Zealand](#)

Topic: [Miscellaneous](#)

The Age: [Fast ferry plan for Melbourne](#)

Fast ferries linking Port Phillip Bay to Federation Square and the Docklands is being touted by a lord mayoral candidate as part of his election plan. Cr Gary Singer told The Age the high-speed ferries, capable of carrying 150 people at a time, would open up Melbourne's waterfront and offer alternative means of transport to people living in bayside suburbs. "I've worked out a strategy of how we can work out a fast-ferry service to link points along Point Phillip Bay and to Federation Square and Docklands and even look at the feasibility of taking it up the river as far as Hawthorn," Cr Singer told The Age.

The Age: [Pay fairly for renewable energy: Greens](#)

The federal government should set a national feed-in tariff for renewable energy to stimulate the economy and offer a financial incentive to cut carbon emissions, the Australian Greens say. Greens senator Christine Milne has a bill before the Senate to establish a national feed-in tariff - a payment for people generating renewable electricity. "Right around the world we're on a cusp of a whole revolution in the way energy is provided," she told reporters outside the Greens National Conference in Brisbane.

Canberra Times: [Climate plan aims to cut \\$2 a day from fuel bills](#)

Canberrans could save almost \$2 a day on household energy bills as part of the Climate Institute's energy efficiency strategy to be launched today. Chief executive officer John Connor said the plan, which is supported by business, welfare and conservation groups, had the potential to create 40,000 jobs.

Mr Connor said Australia was lagging behind other developed countries and needed to improve its energy efficiency. The policy paper calls on the Federal Government to support energy efficiency in three ways. It should support household reductions in energy and wastage. Incentives and other support should go to the commercial and industrial sectors.

The Age: [Tide turns for power investors](#)

IT IS being backed by one of Wall Street's giant financial institutions and has links to the British royal family, but many Victorians would be forgiven for knowing nothing about it, let alone that it is being done in their own backyard.

Tidal power makes use of the kinetic energy of moving water through turbines to generate power in a similar way to wind farms using moving air. In May this year Atlantis Resources Corporation successfully completed the installation and grid-connection of a relatively small 150-kilowatt, \$1 million turbine named Nereus at San Remo, near Phillip Island.

Courier Mail: [Uranium exports divide Queenslanders, says poll](#)

QUEENSLANDERS are now evenly split on the question of uranium exports, with 47 per cent against and 45 per cent supporting the controversial move.

ABC: [Geothermal firm in bid to build regional powerhouse](#)

A Brisbane-based company says it could supply geothermal power to all of north-west Queensland. Clean Energy Australasia wants to build a \$50 million geothermal power station near Longreach. But it has now also revealed plans to build a pilot geothermal project near BHP's Cannington mine at McKinlay, south of Cloncurry. The company's Joe Reichman says the Mount Isa region needs about 500 megawatts of power a year and geothermal resources could easily provide that.

The Age: [It was greenhouse gas, now it's diesel](#)

IT'S a potential win-win situation: use a greenhouse gas to create an environmentally friendly biofuel and make money at the same time. That's the vision and Hazelwood power station in the Latrobe Valley and Smorgon Fuels are working together to achieve it.

Smorgon, through a partnership with US company Greenfield, is developing a technology to produce biodiesel from Hazelwood's carbon dioxide emissions. The CO₂ is siphoned from the power station and pumped into waste water channels where, through photosynthesis, micro-algae transforms the CO₂ emissions into vegetal matter.

SMH: [Car industry to get \\$3b taxpayer boost](#)

THE ailing car industry is set to receive a taxpayer-funded shot in the arm of about \$3 billion today amid new fears that the global financial crisis could hit Australia harder than expected because emerging economies in our region have entered a new "danger zone".

Doubts have also arisen about the security of the 10-year automotive plan to be unveiled in Melbourne today by the Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, and Industry Minister, Kim Carr, because of uncertainty about the long-term, worldwide future of car makers. The Government has sought to "lock in" commitments from Holden, Ford and Toyota that they will continue to make cars in Australia in return for the assistance package, but there are industry and government concerns that any guarantees can not be considered iron-clad.

ABC: [NSW cans petrol subsidy](#)

Petrol prices in northern New South Wales could rise by up to 8.5 cents by Easter, when the State Government axes its fuel subsidy. The scheme, designed to help north coast service stations compete with subsidised prices in Queensland, will be cut in tomorrow's cost-cutting NSW mini-Budget.

NZ Herald: [Auckland councils want input on rail](#)

The National-led Government will be asked to jump aboard Auckland's billion-dollar rail electrification project in the first weeks of power. Auckland Regional Council chairman Mike Lee yesterday said the council was days away from making a major decision to order a fleet of 35 electric trains.



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 United States License](#).